

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

a1) at least one frame synchronization word having $[(N - \text{sie})] K$ frame synchronization bits, and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with a further preferred development of the present invention, a frame start of the at least one data frame is defined by a frame synchronization word when the frame synchronization word is preceded by at least $[(N - \text{sie}) =] N + K + 1$ dummy bits.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with yet another preferred development of the present invention, the at least $[(N - \text{sie}) =] N + K + 1$ dummy bits which precede the frame synchronization word are provided as logic ones "1", so that, after a sequence of a number of $N + K + 1$ dummy bits in a synchronization bit detection unit it is possible to ascertain that a frame start is present.

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